

What is Claimed is:

1. A preformed sleeve for covering a pot, the preformed sleeve initially having a flattened state, comprising:

a base portion having an upper end, a lower end, and an interior space when opened;

extension elements comprising a plurality of folds in the base portion; and

a connected portion comprising portions of the plurality of folds in the base portion which are connected for constricting expansion of a portion of the base portion.

2. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 wherein the base portion is further defined as being sized to substantially cover an outer peripheral surface of a pot.

3. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 further defined as constructed from a material having a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mils.

4. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 further defined as having a gusset in the lower end of the base portion.

5. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper, metal foil, polymeric film, non-polymeric film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

6. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 further comprising an extended portion for serving as a handle or support device.

7. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 wherein the base portion has a drainage element therein.

8. The preformed sleeve of claim 1 wherein the plurality of folds in the extension elements are continuous in the base portion from the lower end to the upper end of the base portion.

9. A preformed sleeve for covering a pot, the preformed sleeve initially having a flattened state, comprising:

a lower portion having an upper end and an interior space when opened;

a detachable upper portion extending from the upper end of the lower portion;

extension elements comprising a plurality of folds in the lower portion; and

a connected portion comprising portions of the folds in the lower portion which are connected for constricting expansion of a portion of the lower portion.

10. The preformed sleeve of claim 9 wherein the lower portion is further defined as being sized to contain the pot.

11. The preformed sleeve of claim 9 further defined as constructed from a material having a thickness in a range of from about 0.1 mil to about 30 mils.

12. The preformed sleeve of claim 9 further defined as constructed from a material selected from the group consisting of treated or untreated paper,

metal foil, polymeric film, non-polymeric film, cardboard, fiber, cloth, burlap, and laminations or combinations thereof.

13. The preformed sleeve of claim 9 further comprising an extended portion for serving as a handle or support device.

14. The preformed sleeve of claim 9 wherein the lower portion has drainage element therein.

15. The preformed sleeve of claim 9 wherein the plurality of folds in the extension elements are continuous within the lower portion.

16. A method of covering a pot having an upper end, a lower end, and an outer peripheral surface, comprising the steps of:

providing a preformed sleeve initially having a flattened state,

comprising:

a base portion having an upper end, a lower end, and an interior space when opened, and;

extension elements comprising a plurality of folds in the base portion, and the base portion having a connected portion comprising portions of the folds which are connected for constricting expansion of a portion of the base portion;

opening the preformed sleeve to expose the interior space; and

disposing a pot into the interior space of the preformed sleeve.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein in the step of providing a preformed sleeve, at least a portion of the plurality of folds are continuous between the lower end and the upper end of the base portion.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein in the step of providing a preformed sleeve, the base portion comprises a gusset in the lower end thereof.

19. The method of claim 16 wherein in the step of providing a preformed sleeve, the preformed sleeve further comprises an upper portion which is detachable via a detaching element in the preformed sleeve.

20. The method of claim 16 wherein in the step of disposing a pot, the pot has a floral grouping disposed therein.

21. A plant package comprising a pot and a preformed sleeve disposed about the pot, the plant package produced by the method of claim 16.

22. A plant package comprising a pot and a preformed sleeve disposed about the pot, the plant package produced by the method of claim 19.

23. A plant package comprising a pot and a preformed sleeve disposed about the pot, the plant package produced by the method of claim 20.